

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

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INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL

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AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR IZ AF

SUBJ: VISIT OF AFGHAN PRESIDENT DAOUD

REF: KABUL 1527

1. SUMMARY: PRES DAOUD'S MAR 17-20 VISIT TO IRAQ
WAS LONG ON TOURISM BUT SEEMINGLY SHORT OF SUBSTANCE. NO
NEW AGREEMENTS ANNOUNCED. END SUMMARY.

2. PRES DAOUD'S DELEGATION INCLUDED FIANCE MIN,
PLANNING MIN, AND DEP FOREIGN MIN. ON FIRST
EVENING DAOUD MET WITH PRES BAKR FOR OVER ONE HOUR OF
WHAT WAS DESCRIBED AS TALKS ABOUT BILATERAL RELATIONS AND
PROBLEMS OF REGION. REMAINING SUBSTANTIVE SIDE OF VISIT
LIMITED TO 90 MINUTE CALL BY DAOUD ON RCC VICE CHAIRMAN
SADDAM HUSSEIN MAR 18.

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3. FOR MOST PART DAOUD'S DAYS FILLED WITH HEAVY DOSE OF

VISITS TO MOSQUES, FACTORIES, ANTIQUITIES AND BOAT CRUISE
ON TIGRIS. SENIMMIQRTZI MILITARY OFFICERS, INCLUDING
CHIEF OF STAFF, SEEMED TO PARTICIPATE IN MOST PARTS OF DAOUD
VISIT.

4. MEDIA ATTENTION TO VISIT WAS UNUSUALLY WARM, STRESSING
THAT IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN HAVE ALWASY ENJOYED CLOSE TIES
UNDER ALL REGIMES. NO MENTION MADE OF DAOUD'S ERSTWHILE
ROYAL FAMILY BACKGROUND OR HIS LONG-TIME ROLE AS PREMIER
OF AFGHANISTAN UNDER HIS COUSIN AND BROTHER-IN-LAW KING
ZAHER. ATTENTION WAS DRAWN TO FACT THAT AUG 1974
TEN MILLION DOLLAR LOAN TO AFGHANISTAN WAS FIRST DISBURSAL
FROM IRAQI FUND FOR FOREIGN DEVELOPMENT.

5. COMMUNIQUE INDICATES NO NEW AGREEMENTS REACHED AND
CONTAINS LITTLE NEW. ABSOLVES DEVELOPING WORLD FROM
ALL RESPONSIBILITY FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES
(WHICH ATTRIBUTED TO "ECONOMIC POLICIES OF THE CAPITALISTIC
SYSTEMS"). STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF SOLIDARITY OF NONALIGNED
MOVEMENT AND COMMITTED BOTH COUNTRIES TO
COOPERATE IN PREPARING FOR NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE IN
COLOMBO IN 1976.

6. COMMENT: FACT THAT SADDAM HUSSEIN PLAYED ONLY MINOR
ROLE IN VISIT SUGGESTS THAT IT WAS NOT OF MAJOR SIGNIFICANCE
FOR IRAQIS. THIS COULD BE ACCOUNTED FOR BY MAR 6 IRAQI-
IRANIAN ACCORD WHICH GOI NOW CONCENTRATING ALL EFFORTS ON
IMPLEMENTING. IT MAY BE TOO THAT WITH ACCORD GOI'S INTEREST
IN WOOING AFGHANISTAN HAS DIMINISTED.
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